

## **Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) Conservation Strategy (CS) Workgroup Meeting**

May 7, 2007, 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Resources Agency Bldg., Room 1131

### **Draft Meeting Notes**

**Co-chairs:** Walt Wadlow and Anthony Saracino

#### **Associated documents and Handouts:**

- Agenda
- Draft 4/23 CS Workgroup Meeting notes
- Handout #1, including:
  - Table 1: Biological Evaluation
  - Table 2: Species Results comparison
  - Table 3: Criteria Category evaluation
  - Table 4: Operations/Criteria comparison
  - Table 5: Element Compatibility

#### **Action Items and Key Recommendations**

- SAIC will develop a handout table that summarizes key strengths and potential adverse effects and weaknesses of the water operations and conveyance bundles.
- In the interim before the next Workgroup meeting, members will review the short-listing documents presented today, with emphasis on Bundles #1 with #3 as an option, #5, and #7. Workgroup members will develop their recommendations for full CSA's and present and discuss them at the next meeting on 5/14.

#### **Conservation Strategy Short-listing evaluation (Paul Cylinder, SAIC)**

Work products from the short-listing evaluation include a narrative report (103 pp.), four tables summarizing the report, and a compatibility table for the bundles of elements. All documents will be available on the website this week. See also Associated Documents and Handouts.

Based on feedback from the CS Workgroup meeting on 4/23, SAIC disaggregated the draft CSA's into conservation elements, then re-grouped them into "conservation element bundles" for analysis. The Workgroup approved the bundles electronically, then SAIC evaluated the bundles against the 17 short-listing criteria that had been approved by the Workgroup and Steering Committee prior to the evaluation process.

P. Cylinder described the evaluation process, presented an overview of results, and presented the tables. He defined three categories into which the conservation actions will fit: 1) interim actions (before permit), 2) early post-permit actions, and 3) long-term actions.

For the remainder of the Workgroup meeting, members discussed the evaluation process and results, and how best to use the results to build the short list of CSA's. Members agreed that because this phase of analysis is non-quantitative and relative/comparative, it would be best to identify three options representing the range of mutually exclusive operations and conveyance options, then develop optimal CSA's on those conveyance alternatives. Selection of a short list of conveyance bundles is viewed as the foundation for building the short-list of CSAs.

The three conveyance options that will be developed into CSA's by the Workgroup include:

- 1) Existing conditions (including elements from bundle #1 and #3)
- 2) Isolated facility (including elements from bundle #5)
- 3) Dual conveyance ( including elements from bundle #7)

Each of the above may include Bundle #2 (reduced demand and Delta diversions). Workgroup members will use the next week to digest the evaluation report and begin crafting CSA's together or independently based on these three basic operations alternatives. Next Monday 5/14 the Workgroup will collaboratively develop the short list of CSA's that will be recommended to the Steering Committee for further definition and analysis.

The Workgroup recognizes the need to identify the existing ecological and operational conditions from which to compare the relative merits of proposed CSA's.

Members expressed interest in the investment value and efficiency/timing of each alternative, and are eager to complete with the short-listing process and begin the quantitative, detailed phase of CSA impact analysis.

### **Meeting Notes review**

Meeting notes from 4/23 CS Workgroup meeting were approved.

### **Public Comments**

No public comments today.

### **Next Meeting**

Monday 5/14, same time and location.